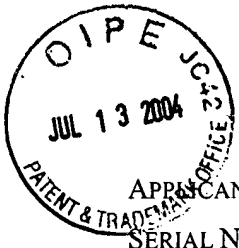


Express Mail Label No.: EV313923877US  
Date of Deposit: July 13, 2004

7-14-04  
PATENT APPLICATION  
Attorney No. 15966-577 RCE (CURA-77 RCE)

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Shimkets *et al.*  
SERIAL NUMBER: 09/662,783 EXAMINER: Dong Jiang  
FILING DATE: September 12, 2000 ART UNIT: 1646  
FOR: GROWTH FACTOR POLYPEPTIDES AND NUCLEIC ACIDS ENCODING SAME

MAIL STOP RCE  
Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION UNDER 37 CFR § 1.114**

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR § 1.114 of the above-identified application. Enclosed herein are the following:

1. Amendment and Response to Final Office Action mailed January 13, 2004 (6 pp.);
2. Check No.18992 in the amount of \$385.00 for RCE filing;
3. Petition for 3 Month Extension of time (1 pg, in duplicate.);
4. Check No.18993 in the amount of \$475.00 for RCE filing;
5. Burgess Declaration (3 pp.); and
6. Return Postcard.

Applicants herein Request Continued Examination (RCE) of Application No. 09/662,783. Included with this request are the required elements of 1) a request; 2) a submission; and 3) a fee. With such a timely filed RCE, submission, and fee, Applicants believe that the Amendment and Response to the Final Office Action should be entered and considered.

Please charge any additional fees that may be due, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Reference No. 15966-577 RCE (CURA-77 RCE).

Respectfully submitted,

DATED: JULY 13, 2004

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**PATENT APPLICATION**  
Attorney Docket No. 15966-577 (CURA-77)



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANTS: Shimkets *et al.*  
SERIAL NUMBER: 09/662,783 EXAMINER: Dong Jiang  
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**MAIL STOP RCE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
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Boston, Massachusetts  
July 13, 2004

**RESPONSE TO JANUARY 13, 2004 OFFICE ACTION**

This filing is in response to the Final Office Action mailed January 13, 2004 ("Office Action"). Applicants submit herewith in the above-mentioned patent application a Request for Continued Examination under 37 CFR § 1.114 and the required fee. With extension, these documents are due on or before July 13, 2004. This Amendment and Response constitutes the submission required by 37 CFR § 1.114. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be due, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Reference No. 15966-577.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 4 of this paper.